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PATENT

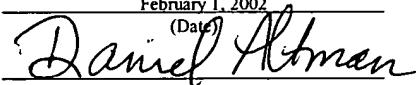
Case Docket No. TAIYO50.001APC
Date: February 1, 2002

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Hachiro Seno
Appl. No. : 10/018,637
Filed : December 14, 2001
For : CATHETER
Examiner : Unknown
Group Art Unit : Unknown

I hereby certify that this correspondence and all marked attachments are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 2327, Arlington, VA 22202, on

February 1, 2002
(Date)

Daniel E. Altman, Reg. No. 34,115

TRANSMITTAL LETTER

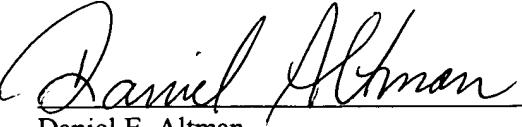
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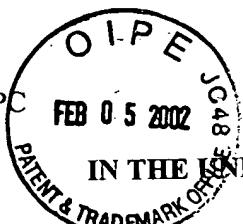
ATTENTION: APPLICATION BRANCH

Dear Sir:

Enclosed for filing in the above-identified application are:

- (X) An Information Disclosure Statement.
- (X) A PTO Form 1449 with one (1) reference.
- (X) The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Account No. 11-1410.
- (X) Return prepaid postcard.


Daniel E. Altman
Registration No. 34,115
Attorney of Record



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant	Hachiro Seno) Group Art Unit Unknown
)
App. No.	10/018,637)
)
Filed	June 16, 2000)
)
For	CATHETER)
)
Examiner	Unknown)

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Dear Sir:

Enclosed is form PTO-1449 listing reference that is also enclosed. This reference was cited in the enclosed second written opinion dated June 26, 2001 in the international phase of the present U.S. national phase application. This reference should have been transmitted to the USPTO by the JPO acting as searching authority, but is provided for the Examiner's convenience. The reference is in the Japanese language, but is relevant for the reasons set forth in the second written opinion. The written opinion, a translation of the written opinion and a translation of the Applicants' response to the written opinion are also enclosed.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the filing date of this application, and no fee is required in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(1), (b)(2), or (b)(4).

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

Dated: February 1, 2002

By: Daniel E. Altman

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